

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification as amended below with replacement paragraphs shows added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~.

Please REPLACE the following paragraphs with the following paragraphs:

[0030] An optical fiber 23 is also provided between each light source 22-1 and a corresponding one of the light incident sides of the X-cube 22-2, so as to adjust the incident angle of light on the X-cube 22-2 within a predetermined range. A glass-~~read~~ rod 25 is disposed on a path of light emitted from the X-cube 22-2 so as to uniformize the intensity of the light.

[0035] The image optical system 24 includes a collecting lens 27 which collects light incident from the glass-~~read~~ rod 25, a panel 24-1 which converts the light incident from the collecting lens 27 according to the electrical image signal to form the image, and an optical path separation device 24-2 which is disposed on an optical path between the collecting lens 27 and the panel 24-1 to reflect the light incident from the collecting lens 27 to the panel 24-1 and transmit the light reflected from the panel 24-1 to the projection optical system 26. For example, a digital micromirror device (DMD) and a total internal reflection (TIR) prism can be used as the panel 24-1 and the optical path separation device 24-1, respectively. Also, a liquid crystal on silicon (LCOS) and a polarization beam splitter (PBS) can be used as the panel 24-1 and the optical path separation device 24-1, respectively.

[0040] FIG. 5 shows an illumination optical system 32 according to another embodiment of the present invention, and an image display apparatus including the illumination optical system 32. As shown in FIG. 5, the illumination optical system 32 includes a light source 32-1 which emits white light and an X-cube 32-2, which has a diffraction device 31 on its incident side to adjust a diverging angle of the light incident from the light source 32-1 and a coating layer to separate the incident light into R, G, and B light beams by wavelengths, and transmit and reflect the R, G, and B light beams. A glass-~~read~~ rod 33 is also provided on an optical path between the light source 32-1 and the X-cube 32-2 to uniformize the light intensity. A relay lens 35 can be provided on an optical path in front of the glass-~~read~~ rod 33 so as to uniformize the light intensity. The relay lens 35 can be used to collimate light. An optical path separation device 32-3 is disposed on an optical path between the relay lens 35 and the X-cube 32-2. The optical path separation device 32-3 reflects light from the relay lens 35 to the X-cube 32-2 and transmits the light from the X-cube 32-2 to a projection optical system 36.